

Lesson 8: Kàore atu! – Fantastic

05/12/2012 Wednesday



❖ Tangi: Fakaalofa lahi atu ki a mutolu

- ❖ Today we are going to launch into our 8th and final Cook Island Māori language lesson for Term 4 and fittingly learn how to say 'Fantastic', but before we do, let's quickly recap on our language lesson from last week and practise how to say "Please listen to me" in Cook Island Māori.

✚ 'Akarongo mai, 'inè? – Please listen to me

✚ Say after me

✚ 'Akarongo mai

✚ Say after me

✚ 'inè?

✚ All together now

✚ 'Akarongo mai, 'inè?

- ❖ Further examples where you will hear the use of Please or 'inè

✚ 'Aere mai ki roto, 'inè? – Please come inside.

✚ 'Aere atu ki va'o, 'inè? – Please go outside.

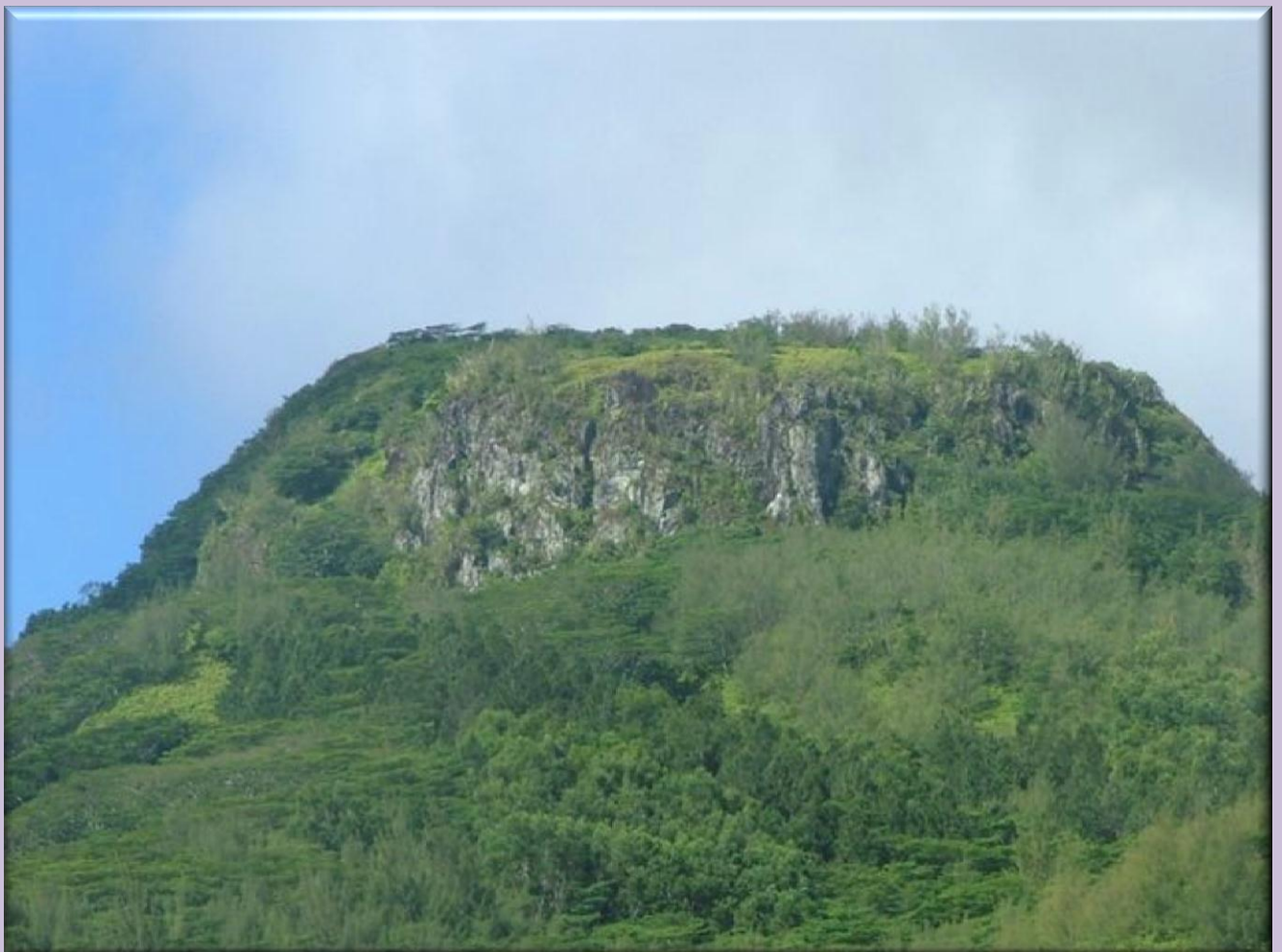
✚ 'Àkara mai ki àku, 'inè? – Please look at me.

- Now for a small selection of Cook Island legends –

❖ Leigh leigh:

Raemaru

- ✚ According to legend, Raemaru was the tallest mountain on Rarotonga. Raemaru is on the west side of Rarotonga in the village known as Arorangi.
- ✚ Raemaru, means ‘in the shade of the sun’. The fame of this mountain reached as far as Aitutaki Island.
- ✚ Aitutaki was completely flat then and so they sent some warriors to steal the mountain.
- ✚ During the night, the Aitutakian warriors cut the mountain top off and took it back to Aitutaki. So now Raemaru has a flat top which has been that way long before white man ever set foot on Rarotonga and Aitutaki has a small mountain.



❖ **Rina:**

Ati and the people from the Underworld (Momoke)!



✚ Ati was a humble planter who lived in the village which is now Arorangi, a long time ago. One day when he went to his plantation, he discovered some of his crops were missing. He paid his neighbours a visit and demanded that they own up to this offence, he even accused and threatened his neighbour's loose animals. But nobody would come forward. Determined to get justice, he figured that the thief was bound to return.

✚ So he hid in the bushes nearby and waited for the thief to come back again. He did this night after night, but the thief did not return. Then one night, the moon was full, Ati was almost about to dose off convinced that his threats to the other villagers had definitely scared off the thief, when there was this funny sound like rippling water.

❖ **Whāea Jacque**

✚ He glanced over at the pool near his plantation and it was glowing. Then suddenly, human figures started to emerge from the pool. They were almost

like him except that they were white-skinned. He watched more in amazement than fury as they uprooted and helped themselves to the fruits of his labour.

✚ When they had gathered enough, they climbed back into the pool and disappeared into its depths. Curious, Ati followed them into the pool, but no matter how hard he tried he could not hold his breath long enough.

Eventually, he gave up. He then planned how he would capture these white-skins (momoke) the next time.

✚ On the night of the next full moon, Ati again lay in the bushes, but this time nearer the pool and watched the momoke raid his plantation. While they were busy, he threw a net that he had woven especially for this purpose over the pool and then rounded up the momoke. They rushed back to the pool, but the weight snapped some of the twine and all except one was able to escape.

✚ Ati, ecstatic, gathered up his captive and took it home. When morning came he took a good look at his captive and realised it was a woman. He decided to make her his wife. She was very unhappy initially. In addition, she couldn't go outside during the day because it hurt her eyes. However, time went by and she became accustomed to living in Ati's world, eventually bearing him a son.

❖ Tangi

✚ They were very happy together. However, one day when Ati came home, he found her crying. She asked him if they could go and visit her parents as she wanted to show them their child. So that night they prepared and went to the pool. Ati held the child. They took deep breaths and attempted to dive. Ati could not hold on and had to come up again for more air. He tried again and again, unsuccessfully. His wife had not emerged again to assist him.

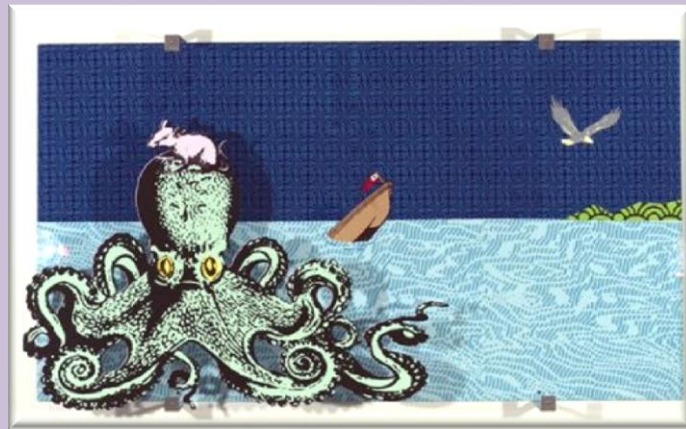
✚ Eventually, he gave up, and sat by the pool with their son, mourning, knowing she was never to return to the surface again. He named his son **Ati've** (which means separation) and sealed off the pool.

✚ While you are in Rarotonga and if you come across some extremely fair Rarotongan's (no, not the Caucasians living there or the Cook Islanders who have Caucasian ancestors), then you will know they are descendants of **Ati've**

✚ **Momoke is the Rarotongan word for albino.** No matter how much these people try, they don't tan. Anyway, the pool is still there too, but you have to ask the old folk in Arorangi where it is.

❖ Gaylene:

The Octopus and the Naughty Rat



A legend for children

- ✚ There was a rat on a canoe that was being hurled around in a storm. Eventually, the canoe started to break up. Afraid and shivering, the rat looked around for something to which he could cling too. Then he noticed an octopus swimming nearby and called over to it. He asked it to take him to land and that he would pay him generously.
- ✚ The octopus being ignorant positioned himself and allowed the rat to climb on top of his head, then carefully made his way towards land. Once they were near the beach, the tricky rat jumped off and quickly ran onto dry land. The octopus then called out to him "where is the payment you promised me".
- ✚ With a cheeky grin and a whip of its tail, the rat replied, "Feel the top of your head".
- ✚ That is why the octopus has black ink in his head and that's also why whenever the rat ventures into trees close to the lagoon, the octopus comes after him with great fury.



❖ **Sharleen:**

- ❖ With Xmas just around the corner and our final farewells taking place with juniors this week, it seems fitting for us to learn a few words that express well done, fantastic! First let's start with 'That's it! Right!'

🚩 **Koia ai!** –That's it! Right!

🚩 Say after me

🚩 Koia ai! –That's it! Right!

- ❖ Now let's have a go at Very Good!

🚩 **Meitaki ma'ata!** – Very Good!

🚩 Say after me

🚩 Meitaki ma'ata! – Very Good!

- ❖ Finally fanau, let's practise Fantastic,

🚩 **Kàore atu!** – Fantastic

🚩 Say after me

🚩 Kàore atu! – Fantastic

